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VOL. III.

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SAMBO'S NARROW ESCAPE.

The Emancipation Was Not Complete
Enough to Convince Him.

It is not strange that the southern colored man has vague and mistaken notions about property rights. He and his ancestors were for ages enslaved and had no rights whatever, even to their own persons. Therefore all they could gain was through treachery and deceit, and it is only natural that those traits bred by slavery remain as inherited characteristics, now that the negro enjoys the blessings of freedom. It may take several generations before their habit of stealing will be unlearned, for even when the colored man becomes religious his easily boasting sin will be most often found in his not respecting the property rights of others. And thereby hangs a tale.

It was a Tennessee Methodist class leader who had before him a six months' probationer who was questioning the admission to all the privileges of the church.

"Well, Sambo," said the class leader, "I hope you are prepared to live a Christian life in accordance with your profession. Have you stolen any chickens during the last six months?"

"Have you stolen any turkeys or pigs?"

Sambo looked relieved. "No, sah."

"I am very glad to hear this good report," continued the class leader, "and I trust you will continue to live an honest Christian life."

After church Sambo hurried home with his wife, who had overheard the catechizing. When they were fairly out of everybody's hearing, he drew a long breath of relief and turned a self approving glance to his better half.

"Golly," he said in a half caution whisper, "ef he'd er said I'd been a lost sinner, sah!" - Boston Budget.

NOVEL READING.

An Excessive Amount of It Is Declared to
Millions Against Marriage.

A writer in a monthly review, discussing Mr. Balfour's "Foundations of Belief," takes occasion to say that solid books, dealing with the great problems of mind and morals, are no longer read except by a few specialists. That an exclusive diet of novel reading is extremely debilitating is proved by one series of facts which are observable in every part of the civilized world. Men and women among the reading classes no longer marry in anything like such numbers as they formerly did, and the reason is that they have no pluck in them to face lives of Spartan simplicity on limited incomes.

The result is disastrous to women, inasmuch as it prevents many of them ever marrying at all. For if a woman does not marry when she is young very few men care to marry her when she is middle aged. Men marry in middle life, but they do not marry women of their own age. They marry young women. The physiological moral is that it would be vastly better for both men and women to read novels for recreation only, and when at work to read solid books which really exercise and develop the brain. In practice the result of this would be that both men and women would have better and stronger brains. They would marry earlier and with more courage. They would face the world more hopefully and manfully, and they would become the parents of wholesome, healthier, happier and more capable children. - English Paper.

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implements, etc., etc., on hand

RETURN OF MODJESKA.

She Tells of Her Experience With the
Russian Government.

New York, Aug. 21.-Mme. Helena Modjeska arrived tonight on the steamship Havel. Her husband, Count Bozenta, was with her. Mme. Modjeska left this country a year ago to revisit her home in Poland. She acted in various cities there for two months, and then prepared to fill an engagement in St. Petersburg, having received permission from the Government to open a theater there.

There were heavy advance sales of seats, and the season was to begin April 15th. "Without any warning whatever," said Mme. Modjeska, "I received notice from the Government that I must not go on. I had to cancel the engagement. I tried to find out why the Government officials stopped me, but the only reason they alleged was that I had said something objectionable to the imperial Government in a speech I made at the World's Fair in Chicago. I am convinced, however, that that was only a subterfuge. I went to Warsaw to consult with my friends, when I suddenly received an invitation to leave Russia within twenty-four hours."

"I may remain in this country permanently. I have a ranch near Los Angeles, California. For the present we shall stay two or three days at the Hotel Imperial and then go on to Chicago to visit my son."

Mme. Modjeska sprained her ankle on shipboard, but it is well now. "Clyde Fitch," she added, "has written me a play of four acts with a strong comic element and a fine dramatic ending. The piece may be called 'Miss Bettie,' but even the title has not been selected."

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